

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of determining inappropriate exposure amounts in a digital image, the method comprising:

obtaining a brightness histogram related to data of a digital image;

calculating a standard deviation in brightness from the brightness histogram;

calculating an average brightness from the brightness histogram;

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit brightness value, then determining that the exposure amount in the digital image may be [[low.]] low; and

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is greater than an upper limit brightness value, then determining that the exposure amount in the digital image may be high.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim [[2,]] 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than an upper limit brightness value and greater than a lower limit brightness value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim [[2,]] 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than an upper limit brightness value and greater than a lower limit brightness value, then displaying no notification.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then displaying no notification.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit brightness value, then displaying a notification indicating that the exposure amount in the digital image may be low

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is greater than an upper limit brightness value, then displaying a notification indicating that the exposure amount in the digital image may be high.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then displaying no notification.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the digital image is taken by a digital camera.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed by a digital camera.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the digital camera comprises a digital signal processor that performs the method.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of determining inappropriate exposure amounts in a digital image, the method comprising:

obtaining a brightness histogram related to data of a digital image;

calculating a standard deviation in brightness from the brightness histogram;

calculating an average brightness from the brightness histogram;

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is greater than an upper limit brightness value, then determining that the exposure amount in the digital image may be high.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of determining inappropriate exposure amounts in a digital image, the method comprising:

obtaining a brightness histogram related to data of a digital image;

calculating a standard deviation in brightness from the brightness histogram;

calculating an average brightness from the brightness histogram;

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then determining the exposure amount to be ~~acceptable~~; and

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is greater than an upper limit brightness value, then determining that the exposure amount in the digital image may be high.

Claims 18-28 (canceled)